

Coal Supply to Thermal Power Stations

4020. SHRI GEORGE FERNADES: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have lifted the ban on supply of coal to the Thermal Power Stations;

(b) if so, whether all the State Electricity Boards have agreed to pay in advance for Coal Supplies; and

(c) if so, the details of the scheme in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). As per the directions of Ministry of Coal, all power utilities are required to make advance payments for supply of coal from 1st October, 1991. The power utilities have, however, represented against 100% advance payment under the Cash & Carry Scheme due to large scale adjustment in bills required to be carried out on account of short supply of coal, low grade supply of coal etc.

[Translation]

Bonus to Employees of Department of Posts, Telegraph & Telephones

4021. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of the Departments of Post (Civil), Telegraph and Telephones have been given 48 day's bonus and the employees of Department of Posts have been given only 31 day's bonus;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether all the above departments are under the same Ministry; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government for removal of this disparity?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Two independent Departments Viz the Department of Telecommunications and the Department of Posts are functioning under the Ministry of Communications. The employees working in the above Departments were paid bonus for 48 days' and 31 days' respectively for the financial year 1990-91.

(b) The bonus is paid on the basis of productivity achieved by its employees during a particular year. The two departments have their separate resources and yardsticks to measure productivity depending upon the nature of service and profitability thereon.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In view of reply to part (b) the question of removal of disparity does not arise.

[English]

Regional Power Tariff Commissions

4022. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
KUMARI DEPIKA CHIKHLIA:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Five regional power tariff commis-